3:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MMI Aden MMI

743 758 A small Lunatic Asylum is situated outside the walls of the Civil Hospital and is administered from it.

[744] The Port Health work is a very important feature in the medical and sanitary organization of the Colony. The proximity of Aden by sea to ports which are subject to periodic infections makes the careful inspection of vessels a vital matter, and in addition the services of the Port Health Officer are in constant demand to assist the masters of the many cargo ships which use the port and carry no doctor. Passengers and members of the crews requiring hospital treatment are accommodated in the European General Hospital, or, if the illness is an infectious one, in suitable isolation. A few cases of chickenpox and three cases of modified smallpox were landed from shipping during 1938.

743 744 In the European General Hospital 66 residents of Aden and 155 patients from ships were treated as in-patients during the year. In all 23 different nationalities were represented.

During 1938, 2,178 Bills of Health were issued to mechanically propelled vessels and 1,609 to native craft.

V.—HOUSING

General

342 647 Houses in Aden are of stone masonry, except at Sheikh Othman where they are mostly built with sun-dried bricks.

656 The control of housing in Aden is vested in the Executive Committee of the Settlement, and plans for new buildings and reconstructions are passed by them after scrutiny by the Medical Officer of Health and the Settlement Engineer.

Particular attention is paid to efficient lighting and ventilation. Each residential building is provided with sanitary and kitchen accommodation separated from the living rooms by open court-yards or by large shafts open to the sky.

Most of the houses are provided with floors made of cement-concrete; this is insisted upon in all new buildings, and the height of the houses is never allowed to exceed the width of the streets.

Back-to-back houses are not allowed; a few still exist in the village of Maala, but these are being demolished as opportunity occurs.

[514] 364 At the rear of all houses there are open spaces from 5 ft. to 10 ft. wide. They are called sweeper passages, and the sanitary accommodation of the houses abuts on to these spaces and is drained into them. Each such passage is connected with the main drainage system in all divisions of the Settlement except Maala, where it is connected with a large soak pit.

Every building plan is carefully scrutinised by the Public Health Department before construction is allowed.